

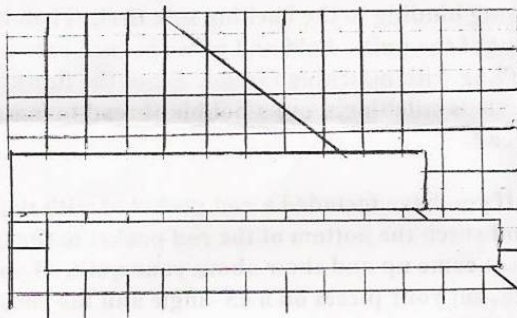
## Buttoned Bag

1. Cut out all pieces from fabric.
2. Cut out interfacing.
3. Trim ¼” from the bottom of the interfacing.
4. Apply interfacing to the wrong side of the facing. This is done using heat, steam, and pressure. Remember to apply with the rough side down.
5. Clean finish the bottom of the facing and top of the front by turning ¼” to the wrong side and stitching down.
6. Pin facing on the top of the back, right sides together.
7. Pin the front on to the back, right sides together. The facing and bottom should match/meet. There will be extra fabric left over at the bottom of the bag.
8. Sew around all four sides using a 5/8” seam allowance, leaving needle in the fabric and lifting pressure foot to pivot at the corners.
9. Trim curved seam and clip around the curve. Trim the corners diagonally. Cut the extra fabric off at the bottom of the bag.
10. Turn right side out.
11. Get button.
12. Make a practice buttonhole, to assure that it is the right size.
13. Make buttonhole in back, centered about ½” from the lower edge.
14. Fold back down over front and sew button on, being careful to **NOT** sew through all layers. Remember to incorporate a shank on the button.

## Quilt Binding

1. Cut enough strips to go around your project--plus at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  yard to allow for mitered corners. (Wider binding will require more.) I cut mine  $2\frac{3}{4}$ " wide-cross wise of fabric. However, thicker may need wider strips. Stack them folded double on your cutting mat, with the ends where the bias line on the mat will give you a 45 angle. If you have several pieces, make two stacks. Cut both stacks on the 45 angle.

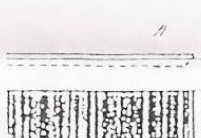
2. Seam strips all together, using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. Press seams open. Then press strip double lengthwise.



Cut one end straight off on a 90 angle.

3. Make sleeve of backing fabric. The size will depend on the size of the quilt or wall hanging. You may want to make your sleeve in two pieces to allow for a center support. Hem ends, press wrong sides together and machine baste to the top edge on the quilt back. Pin on binding enough to make sure your seams will not appear at the corner.

4. Match the cut edges of the binding strip to the edge of the quilt on the right side, leaving about 8" free. Stitch to the quilt using about a  $\frac{3}{8}$ " seam allowance. To miter the corner of the binding, stop stitching the width of the seam allowance from the corner. Sew to the corner diagonally.



Fold the binding diagonally, as shown, so that it extends straight up from the second edge of the quilt. Then fold the binding down even with the second edge. The fold should be even with the first edge. Start sewing the binding at the fold. Repeat on remaining corners.

5. To connect the ends of the binding, stop stitching about 8" from the starting end. Overlap the beginning end, the width of the unfolded binding. Cut the end straight off. Fold and pin a pleat in the quilt. Pick up the two ends, turn in a criss cross manner, right sides together, and join with a diagonal seam. Trim seam to  $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Scratch press open. Remove pin and finish sewing the binding to the quilt.

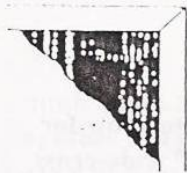
As you fold the corner to the back of the quilt,  
a folded miter will appear on the front



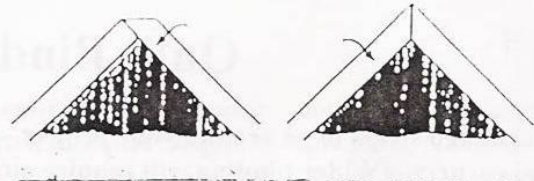
On the back, fold one side first, then the  
other, to create a miter on the back.



As you fold the corner to the back of the quilt,  
a folded miter will appear on the front



On the back, fold one side first, then the other,  
to create a miter on the back.



6. On the back fold one side first and then the other to create a mitered corner. If you are going to finish the binding with machine stitching, reverse the procedure by sewing binding to the backing side first. Then bring folded edge of binding to the front of the quilt. Fold and miter in each corner as in diagram, and edge stitch binding with matching thread. Since the finished edge of the binding barely covers previous stitching, I use a bobbin thread to match the backing or use invisible thread.

If you have included a rod pocket in with the binding at the top, you will need to hand stitch the bottom of the rod pocket to the quilt (be sure to have rod ease), so it won't come up and show above your quilt. If you prefer to use a bias strip to bind with, cut your pieces on a 45° angle and the ends will be already to seam together. If you like to round the corners or have scalloped edge you must use a bias binding.

# Scrap Caddie

Fabric = 12 " quilted fabric, 5 inch square of rubber mesh used to cover shelves, rice and steel wool for pin cushion and assorted lace or buttons for embellishment

Cut: 1 - circle 6 1/2 " diameter (quilted fabric)  
1 - rectangle 18" x 12" (quilted fabric)  
1 - square 5"x 5" (quilted fabric)  
1 - square 6"x 6" (quilted or co-ordinated single layer fabric)

Sew rectangle matching 12" sides with right sides of fabric together. Quarter mark the fabric tube and bottom circle and stitch together. Serge seam allowance.

Fold top of double quilted fabric down to right side 2 inches, then 2 inches again and stitch forming a "collar". (Or add a band of co-ordinating fabric to finish top edge.)

To make the pin cushion, Make a puff pillow square by placing the 6" square on the 5" square with wrong sides together. Make a small tuck near the center of each side to fit the larger square to the smaller square. Leave an opening in the center of one side and stitch remaining edges. Fill with rice (for weight) except for center-top of square. Use a ball of steel wool in the center. (The steel wool will help keep your pins and needles sharp.) Close opening by stitching or use a hot glue gun.

Attach one side of the square to the bag .

Embellish with lace or buttons.

Hand stitch or hot glue a 5" square of rubberized shelf mesh to bottom of the pin cushion.

Hang the Scrap Caddie on the edge of the table near the sewing machine to capture threads and scraps.

Use a lunch bag liner if desired and toss it when it gets full.



## Zippered Cosmetic Bag

1. Cut one piece of fabric 9" x 5 1/2" and another 9" x 6 1/2 "
2. Get a zipper, 5" to 7" long
3. With the sewing machine, sew two long ends of the two pieces of fabric together with a 5/8" seam, using a long basting stitch.
4. Center zipper along the seam and mark the position of the stops.
5. Sew from each end to within 1/4" of the marked point with a regular stitch, backstitching at each end.
6. Open zipper. Place it face down on the seam allowance of the 5 1/2" side of the fabric. The teeth or coil should be at the seam line and centered between the regular stitching. Pin in place.
7. Machine baste through the zipper tape and seam allowance **ONLY**, from bottom to the top of the zipper, using a zipper foot.
8. Close the zipper and turn it face up. Smooth the fabric away from the zipper forming a narrow fold between the zipper coil and the basted seam.
9. Machine stitch close to the fold, beginning at the bottom of the zipper. Sew through the folded seam allowance and zipper tape **ONLY**.
10. Open out the fabric and place the zipper face down on the full seam allowance. Smooth the fabric and zipper away from the seam.
11. Pin the zipper down, through all thicknesses of fabric. Mark the beginning and end of the basting threads.
12. Starting at the bottom of the zipper, sew across the zipper from the seam line. Leave the needle in the fabric and pivot. Sew up the side of the zipper. When you get to the top, leave the needle in the fabric and pivot again. Sew across the top of the zipper to the seam line.
13. Pull the threads to the back at both ends and tie in a knot.
14. Remove the basting threads holding the seam together.
15. Open zipper. Fold bag with right sides together and pin remaining three sides.
16. Sew with a 5/8" seam on all three sides, remembering to backstitch at both ends.
17. Finish seams with serger or zigzag on those three seams. Do not finish seams with zipper.

18. Turn bag right side out, through the zipper. Close zipper.



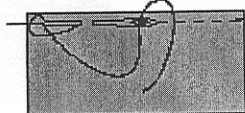
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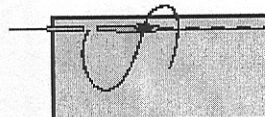
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## HAND STITCHING

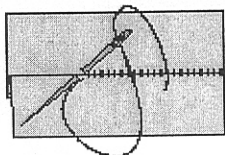
There are times when even the most dedicated machine sewer needs or wants to do some hand-work on a project, and it's useful to have a repertoire of stitches for different purposes. For the 20-minute vests, which can be sewn by hand quicker than you can thread your machine, these stitches will provide endless variations. For the seams, try a quilting thread, which is heavier than machine thread, so you need use only a single thread. If you want the stitches to be decorative, try cotton embroidery floss or a light weight knitting yarn. Use a short needle (easier for small stitches), with an eye large enough for the thread or yarn to move easily through.



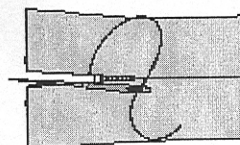
**Secure** the thread with tiny back stitches at the beginning of the work and with a figure-8 knot at the end. For the figure-8 knot, take a tiny back stitch, wrap the thread under and around the needle before pulling the needle through.



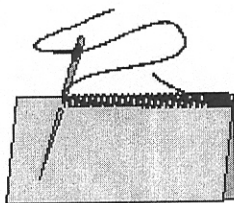
The **backstitch** makes a very strong seam. Take a 1/8" stitch, then insert the needle either 1/16 or 1/8" behind the thread, and take another 1/8" stitch.



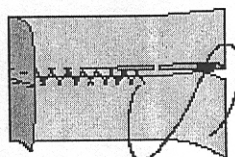
The **fell stitch** is useful for joining two layers of fabric from the right side. Insert the needle directly below where it came out of the fabric, and bring it out 1/8" ahead and opposite where it first came out of the fabric. There will be diagonal stitches on the wrong side.



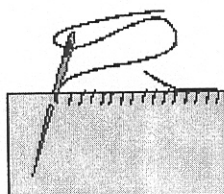
The **drawing stitch** invisibly joins two layers of fabric with folded edges from the right side. Take a short stitch through one folded edge, then in the other folded edge.



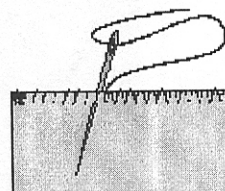
The **whipstitch** is used for seaming fabrics, either right or wrong sides together. The stitches should be about 1/16" apart, and only as deep as necessary to create a firm seam. Leave a tail of thread when you start, and work several stitches over it to secure and hide the thread.



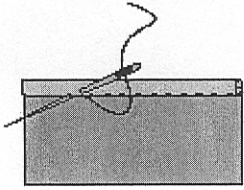
The **catch stitch** is very useful for hemming as well as joining two edges. Take a small backstitch, move to the other layer, and take another backstitch.



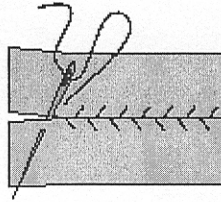
The **overcast stitch** is used to prevent raveling. Work evenly, and as closely together as necessary for a secure edge.



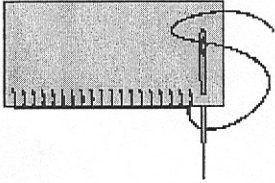
For a more secure edge, work a second row (**crossed overcast stitches**) back over the first row of overcast stitches.



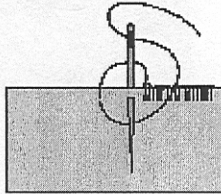
The **rolled hem** uses a **slipstitch** to secure a very narrow finished edge. Roll the fabric between your thumb and finger (or, if the fabric won't roll, fold it), then secure it with a tiny stitch that catches just a thread or two from the fabric and then a short stitch through the roll (or the edge of the fabric).



The **baseball stitch** is a decorative stitch to join two abutted edges. Insert the needle between the edges, bring it out 1/8" from one edge, insert between the edges again, and bring it out in the other edge. Work closely together for a secure seam.



The **blanket stitch** is a decorative stitch to finish either a raw edge. Work the stitches evenly, and as closely together as necessary to cover the raw edge.



The **buttonhole stitch** controls fraying as well as creating a decorative edge. Put the needle under and through the fabric edge; loop the thread around the needle point, and pull the needle through. Tighten the thread, positioning the "knot" of the stitch at the fabric edge.

**Sewing with fur**, whether real or faux, is a bit different from sewing with fabric. When you cut the fabric, cut a single layer; cut only through the backing. Smooth the fur or pile away from the stitching line toward the fabric right side.

For hand sewing, use a whip stitch.

To sew by machine, use a zigzag stitch, with the "zig" going through both layers of fabric, and the "zag" falling just off the edge of the fabric. The seam should flatten out.

Most seams will be invisible from the right side if you tease the fur or pile out along the stitching line.

# TheDenverChannel.com

Perk Up Those Pillows: A Puffy Project

## ***Instructions Provided By Craft Expert Jane Asper***

Give me your tired, your weary -- throw pillows, that is.

In the family room, they have become flattened with use. The ones on the living room sofa seem positively tawdry against your newly painted celadon green walls. And what happened to the pillows on your bed? Did the dog use them as chew toys, or what?

It's easy to inject new life into these tired pillows. And what makes these pillow make-overs so fast and fun is that you'll use cloth articles you probably already have around the house to make these covers. Instructions given are for the basic techniques to cover the pillows. Feel free to add your own additional touches, if you are so inclined.

If your pillows are still fluffy, but their covering is worn or stained, use them as is for any of these projects. To revitalize pillows that have become flattened, use two at a time inside a new covering. Or, wrap each one with a layer or two of quilt batting from the fabric store before recovering them

### **Scarf Trick**



Simply center a 16"-18" square pillow diagonally on the wrong side of a 36" or larger square scarf. Bring two opposite corners of the scarf to the center of the pillow and tie them in a knot. Next, bring the two remaining corners to the center and knot them around the first knot. Tuck scarf fabric neatly into the folds, and fluff the ends of the knot out.

pillow in before covering it.

If your scarf is somewhat sheer and the pattern of the pillow shows through, use a plain white dish towel or piece of muslin to wrap the

If the scarf fabric is delicate, simply gather the corners together and instead of knotting them, secure them with a pretty hair elastic.

In addition to scarves, this treatment works well with small vintage tablecloths or other linens that you would like to use decoratively without cutting up.

### **Use Your Napkin(s)**

The pillow cover shown here is made from two cotton napkins. Cloth napkins are usually about 20" square, which makes them the perfect size for covering a typical throw pillow, usually about 17" square. All you need is a pair of napkins, 4 yards of rayon seam binding, and a long needle with an eye big enough to carry



the seam binding and a point sharp enough to pull the seam binding through the fabric. Loosely woven cotton napkins work best.

Simply measure the width of the pillow and the width of the napkin. Divide the difference by 2, and allow that much seam allowance all around the pillow. Place the napkins on top of each other, right sides out. Cut 1 yard of the seam binding, thread the needle, and sew the first seam, using a 1" running stitch and leaving a 6" end of the seam binding free on each end. Sew three seams, insert the pillow into the cover and sew the last seam, closing the pillow cover.



You will have two seam binding ends at each corner. Tie them into bows and trim the ends.

This pillow looks great on both sides. You might want to use two different types of napkins, a striped one with a checked one in the same colors, for example. The flanges of the pillow (the flaps outside of the seam) will move when the pillows are in use, so both patterns will show. Be sure to use napkins that have no discernable wrong side for this project.

### Button-down Pillows



Magazines and catalogues often show pillows that have button closures. The easiest pillow cover of all can be made from the front and back of a shirt or blouse. Simply lay the shirt flat, and measure a rectangle an inch smaller all the way around than your pillow, not counting seam allowance. Make sure the buttons run down the center of the pillow. Be sure to make the cover slightly smaller than the pillow to ensure a snug fit.

Cut the two rectangles out, lay them wrong sides together, and sew a seam all around the edge. Reach inside, un-button the buttons, turn cover right side out and press. Insert pillow, button buttons to close.

If your shirt pillow has a pocket, put a hanky in it or use it to store the TV remote.

# Home & Garden Television

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## Recycling Clothes

[Smart Solutions : Episode SSL-1001](#) -- [More Projects »](#)

Designer Mary Jo Hiney shows how to recycle delicate antique blouses, prom or wedding dresses and lingerie into beautiful bedroom pillows.

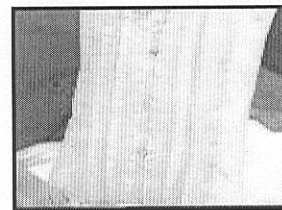
### Ruffled Pillow

#### Materials:

fabric for the front and back of the pillow  
decorative fabric from your garment  
scissors  
sewing machine or fusible webbing  
pointed tool  
ribbon  
pillow form

#### Steps:

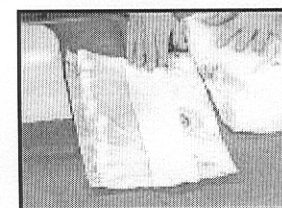
1. Cut out two pieces of fabric in the size you want your pillow to be, adding a little extra for seams.
2. Sew on the decorative ruffle to the right side of the fabric used for the top of the pillow, placing it as desired.
3. For a decorative effect and clean line along the edge where the ruffle is attached, cut a contrast piece of fabric in whatever width works for your design, and place the right side of the fabric face down on the ruffle (see photo at right).
4. With right sides together, sew the front and back fabric together, being careful to keep the ruffle placed correctly before sewing. Clip the bulk from the corners and press the seam allowances open for a nice, crisp seam.
5. Turn the pillow right side out. Push the corners out carefully with a pointed tool.
6. Tie the pillow closed with a ribbon attached at the edges.
7. Stuff with a pillow form.



A beautiful ruffled antique blouse can easily be recycled into a unique decorative pillow.



The ruffle from a slip creates a distinctive decorative touch for a pillow.



\* Note: if you wish to make the pillow without sewing, use fusible webbing.

#### RESOURCES:

***Fabulous Fabric Embellishments: Elegant & Innovative Techniques***

by Mary Jo Hiney

Sterling Publishing, 2000

[Order this title](#) from Amazon.com.



## SUPPLIES CHECKLIST

In addition to basic sewing supplies like needles, threads, thimbles, and a sewing machine (optional), keep the following nearby.

- ☒ Semi-transparent template plastic
- ☒ Sharp scissors for cutting template plastic
- ☒ Sixteenth inch hole punch (optional)
- ☒ Sharp fabric scissors
- ☒ Rotary cutter and cutting mat (optional)
- ☒ Tailor's chalk or other fabric marker
- ☒ Chopstick or dollmaker's awl

## Fabric Selection

The projects in *Patchwork Puzzle Balls* are perfect for using up odd scraps of favorite fabrics that are left over from larger sewing projects. If you are purchasing fabric, you will need at most a quarter yard of each color, usually quite a bit less. Make sure you pay attention to color values as you choose your fabrics—if there is not enough contrast among values, the individual patchwork shapes that make up the ball will not be distinct. Each pattern provides help with choosing fabrics that achieve the right contrast.

### Fabric Chart

For each ball, colors are arranged so that no two patches of the same color are allowed to touch each other. The best way to keep track of the colors and avoid mistakes is to make a fabric chart. For each project, photocopy the fabric chart on page 88. Cut small swatches of each your selected fabrics and glue or staple them onto the squares in the chart.

## Cutting Out Shapes

Each pattern indicates the number of fabric pieces to cut for each shape. For most patterns, you can cut two at a time by folding the fabric before cutting. The exceptions are *Whirligig* and *ZZZs*. (The reason is that these shapes are directional and pieces must all be cut right side up.) For any of the designs, it is possible to cut up to four shapes at a time by stacking layers of fabric right side up and using sharp scissors or a rotary cutter. You may want to put a couple of pins in the layers to keep them from slipping as you cut.

Mark clearly around each template before cutting. My preferred marker is tailors' chalk. The Clover Company makes a good brand, shaped in a triangle and sharp on all three sides. When the edges become dull, it's easy to sharpen them again with an emery board, a knife, or an old pair of scissors. Cut just within the chalk line to get fabric pieces that are exactly the same size as the templates.



## Sewing

Since the patches are small and most patterns require some *setting in* of pieces, I find it easiest to stitch the balls by hand. They make perfect carry-along projects and you will be amazed at how quickly you complete your first ball. If you prefer to stitch by machine, the first couple of steps in each pattern—while everything is still flat—are easy to do. Once the dimensional shape of the ball starts evolving, it is easier to complete by hand. The balls will be stuffed very tightly, so—whether sewing by hand or machine—it is important that stitches are secure. For machine sewing, set the stitch length so that stitches are very close together and backstitch at the beginning and end of each seam; for hand-sewing, make the stitches as small as possible and backstitch every few stitches and at the beginning and end of each seam.

### Setting In

The pattern *Thousand Pyramids* on page 22 is the only design in *Patchwork Puzzle Balls* that can be sewn entirely with straight seams. All other patterns require that some patches are *set into* a Y-seam created by two other patches. When setting in pieces like this, the key is to stop all stitching at precisely the spot where the seam allowances on the pieces cross. This allows for an opening so the pieces to be set in can be sewn smoothly and without puckers.

The best way of knowing exactly where to start and stop stitching, is to mark small dots on each fabric patch at the points where seam allowances cross. Those points are already marked for you on the templates on pages 85 to 87. As directed above, simply transfer those markings from your templates onto your fabrics when you are

## THREAD COLOR

Because the balls are stuffed very tightly, the stitches are apt to show. This means that the thread you select for stitching is very important. It may even be necessary to use more than one thread color, depending on the contrast between patches you are sewing together. Never use white or very light-colored thread unless your patches are white or very light. When sewing two patches together, match the thread to the darker colored patch, not the lighter one. I keep spools of thread in black, navy, burgundy, brown, and light gray (for very light patches) always at hand. I find one or other of these basic thread colors will usually work well.

cutting. Note, too, that the plastic templates that accompany this book already have holes pre-punched at the angle, so that you can easily mark the point at which seam allowances cross (see page 6).

To set in a piece, follow these steps.

1. Use the template to mark each seam intersection.
2. Rights sides together, pin the patch to be set in to one of the adjacent pieces, matching the marks at the seam intersections.
3. Sew from the raw edge toward the set-in corner. As you approach the corner, pull the seam allowances to the left and stitch just to the corner dot. To ensure a tight intersection, take a back stitch, with the needle coming up right at the dot. Do not cut the thread.
4. Pivot the patch being set in and pin it to the next piece. Continue sewing the seam from the corner out, stopping at the mark along this sewing line.

## Pressing

The balls will be stuffed so tight, that it really isn't necessary to press the pieces, but when the sections for each half-ball are still flat, I usually press them gently. Lay them right side up on a thick, fluffy towel, letting the seam allowances fall in whatever direction they want to go. Press lightly.

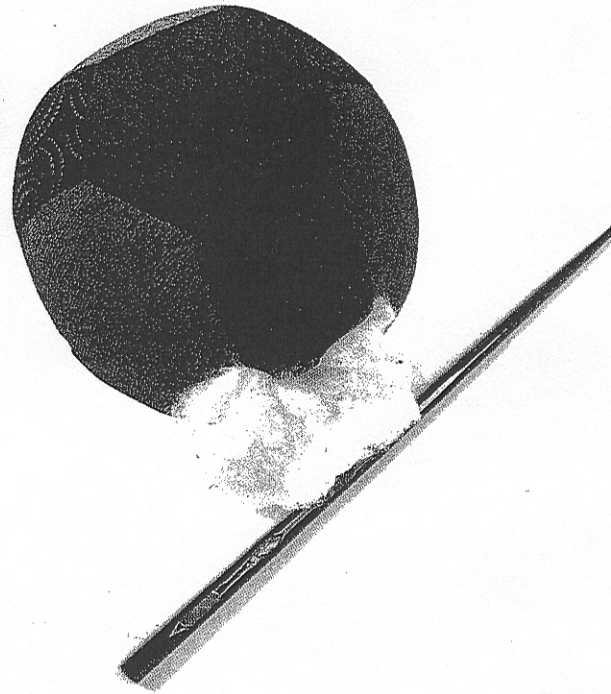
## Stuffing and Finishing

How the balls are stuffed is one of the most important parts in the whole process. You have to remember that if the designs were made up in a stiff material, such as cardboard or plastic, the end result would be a many-sided shape on which each face is perfectly flat. When balls made from fabric from these same flat shapes are stuffed, they become round because of the flexibility of the fabric. It is important, though, to stuff them *very tightly* to keep that round shape. I prefer a 100 percent cotton stuffing material (not batting, because it will be lumpy). I like Quilters Dream Cotton. Polyester stuffing is not dense enough to hold a firm shape. A one pound bag of 100 percent cotton stuffing will stuff one large ball (approximately 7" diameter) and one small ball (approximately 4" diameter). The same bag will stuff two medium-sized balls. This is the process I use for stuffing.

1. Complete all sewing of the ball except for a single seam. Make sure the seams at the opening are double stitched so they do not come apart. Turn the ball right side out.
2. Take some cotton stuffing and separate it with your fingers into small wisps. (If you insert it in clumps straight from bag, the ball will be lumpy.)

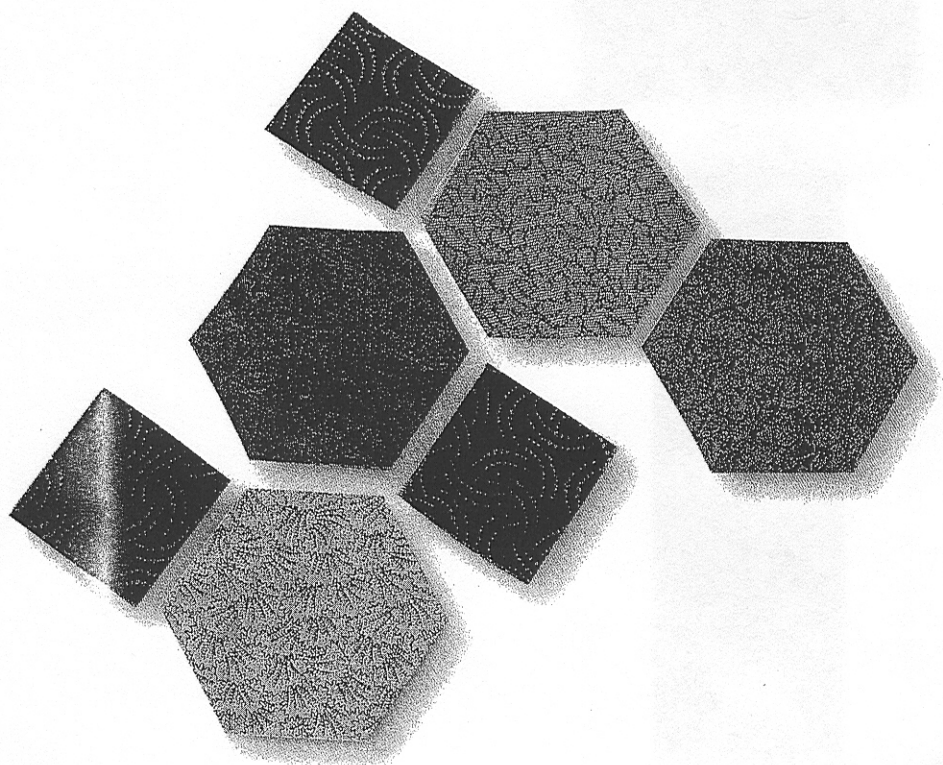


3. Taking care not to put stress on the seams close to the opening, begin inserting stuffing.
4. Once the ball is reasonably well stuffed, use a utensil such as a wooden or plastic chopstick, a cooking-spoon handle, or a doll-maker's awl to compact the stuffing as much as possible. (When you think you have ball as full as it can be, you probably need half as much stuffing again.) Work the chopstick to the side of the ball opposite the opening until you can feel the end of it through the fabric. Work the stuffing around that patch until it is very tight. Use your fingers to feel for soft spots on any part of the ball. When you find soft spots, work the chopstick to that section and keep pushing stuffing against it. You will find that the channel where the chopstick worked its way to the opposite side now needs more stuffing. Take little bits of the cotton and push them into the channel with the chopstick.
5. When the ball is as full as can be, put two thumbs into the opening and push the stuffing to the edges of the ball all around the opening. You will find that there is still room for more stuffing. Gently push in more stuffing around the opening.
6. Let the ball sit overnight. The cotton will compact and by morning the ball will be ready for yet more stuffing.
7. When you are finally ready to stitch the final seam, close the opening with a small whip stitch. When all but about half an inch remains, secure with a knot. Do not cut the thread. Gently push more stuffing into the hole and around the stitched-up final seam.
8. Sew another few stitches and gently work more wisps into the hole before finally closing the opening completely.
9. Place the completed ball in the dryer along with a slightly damp towel and spin for about five minutes. This will plump up the stuffing and make the ball nice and round. If at a later time, the ball appears out of shape, repeat this process.



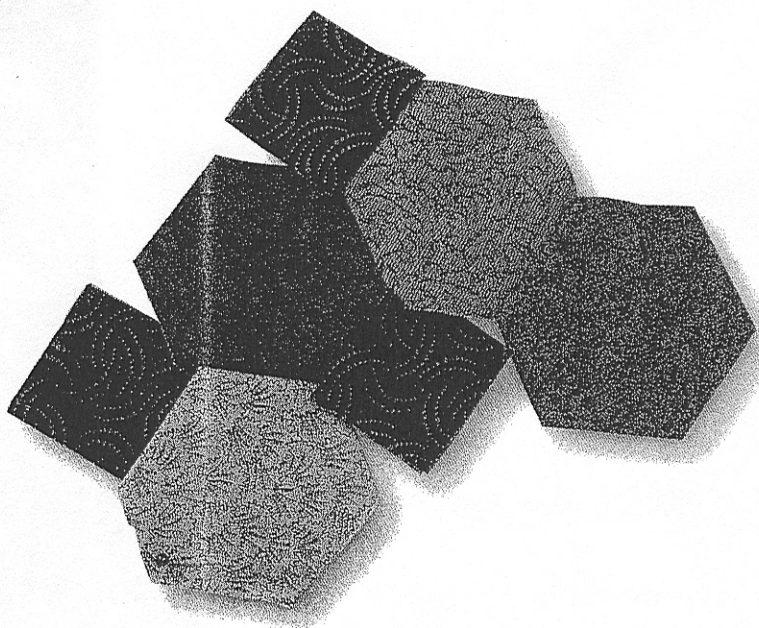
# PATCHWORK PUZZLE BALLS IN FIVE EASY STEPS

All of the balls are constructed in the same way. The photographs here show how one of the designs, *Snowballs* on page 26, comes together. Use the same simple steps for every pattern.



**1.** Cut out the required pieces for each half-ball. To make the first half of *Snowballs* you will need three squares and four hexagons.

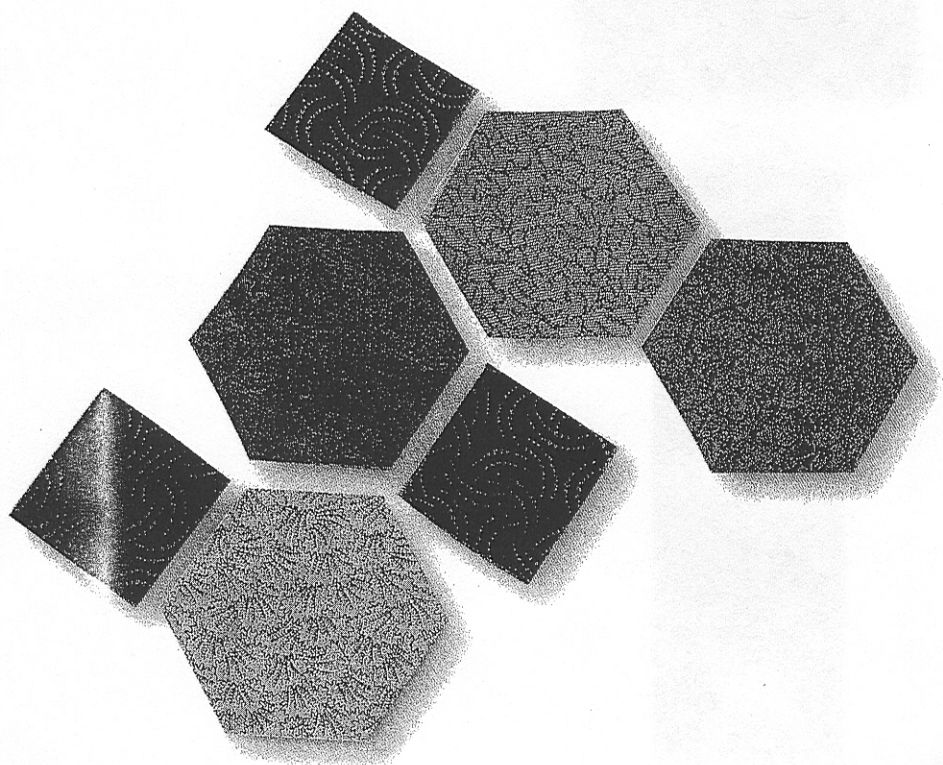
**2.** Lay out the pieces as shown in the pattern illustrations. Place a marker pin in the patch indicated in the pattern. Sew the patches together, beginning and ending exactly at the spot where the seam allowances intersect. The work is still flat at this point.





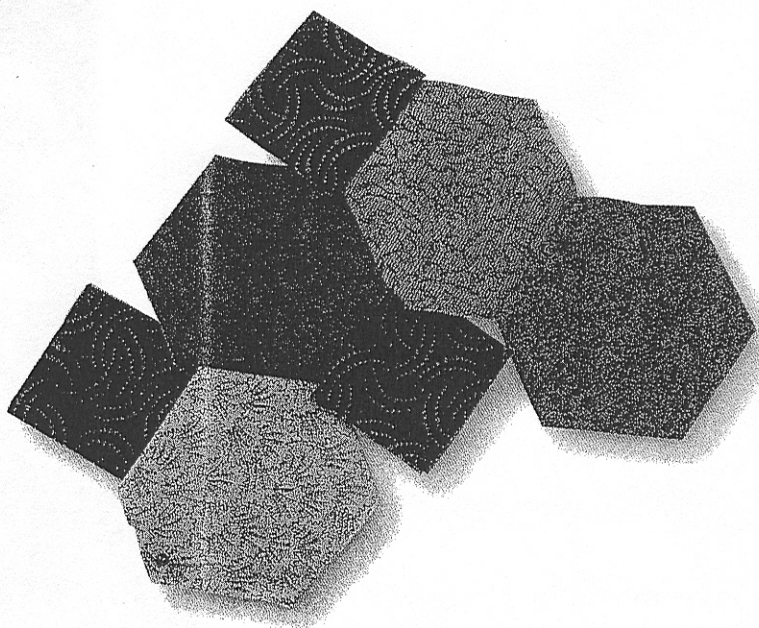
# PATCHWORK PUZZLE BALLS IN FIVE EASY STEPS

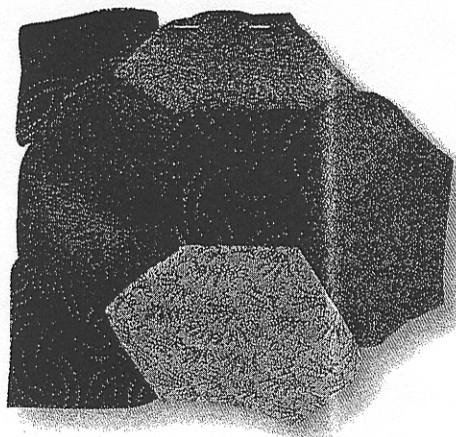
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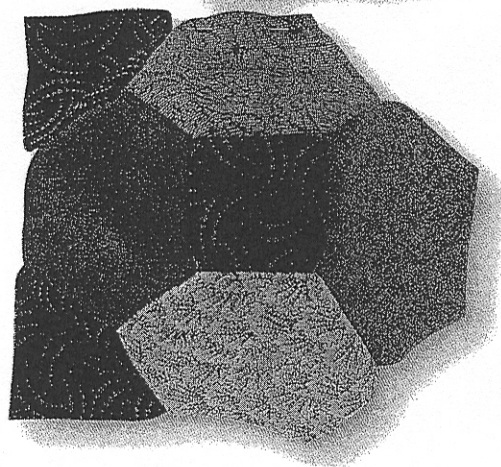
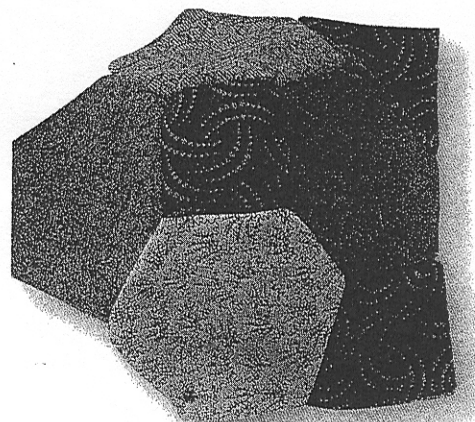
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**2.** Lay out the pieces as shown in the pattern illustrations. Place a marker pin in the patch indicated in the pattern. Sew the patches together, beginning and ending exactly at the spot where the seam allowances intersect. The work is still flat at this point.

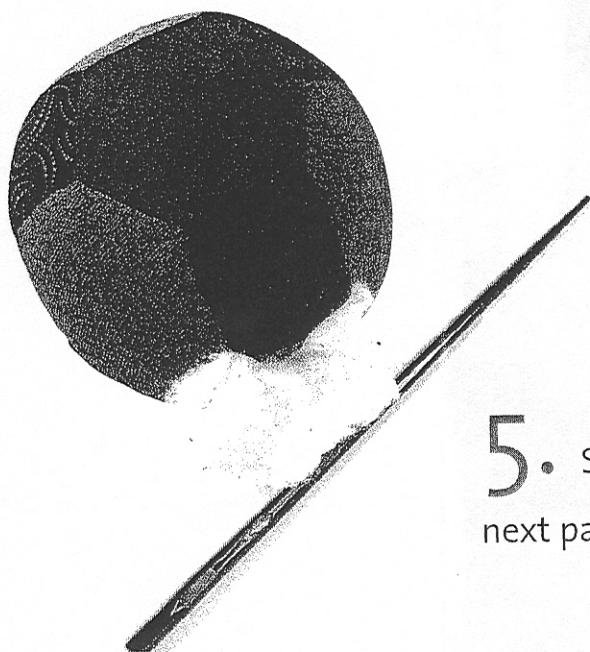




3. Sew the remaining seams to create the dimensional half-ball shape.



4. Make the second half-ball in the same way. Position the two half-balls so that the patches you pinned in Step 2 lie next to each other. Right sides facing, sew these patches together first. Continue sewing until only one seam remains unstitched. Turn right side out.



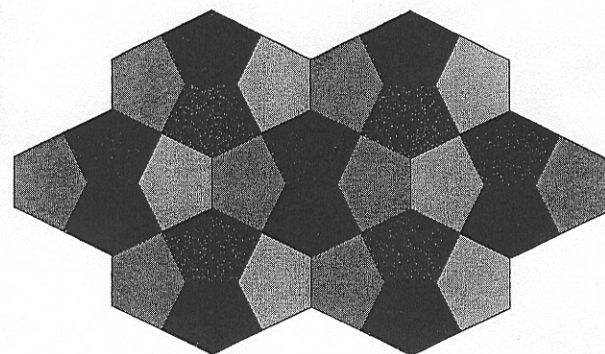
5. Stuff tightly as described on the next page. Sew the remaining seam.

# Bat Wings

Mathematical model: *Dodecahedron*    Diameter: 4"    Template 3

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About the size of a softball, **Bat Wings** is perfect for playing catch—or make three and learn to juggle! The design is similar to a traditional patchwork pattern also known as **Bat Wings**; it is a simple five-sided shape with identical angles. The puzzle here is simple—twelve pentagons in a range of colors are positioned so that same-color pieces never touch. **Bat Wings** has the fewest pieces of all the designs in **Patchwork Puzzle Balls**. It makes a perfect beginner project and can be completed in just a couple of hours.



*Traditional pattern*

## Color Clues

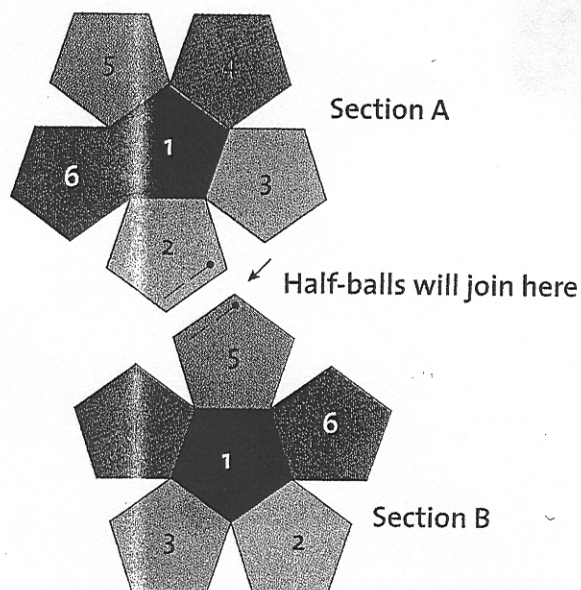
Six different fabrics are needed for this project. Look at the photo and you will see that each color pentagon touches every other color—make sure there is enough contrast between your selected fabrics so that each pentagon is easily distinguishable from the others. Note that same-color pentagons always lie on directly opposite sides of the ball. Carefully adhere to the colors indicated on the diagrams and you will achieve the same effect. Copy the fabric chart on page 88 and staple or glue your fabric swatches to it.

## Cutting Clues

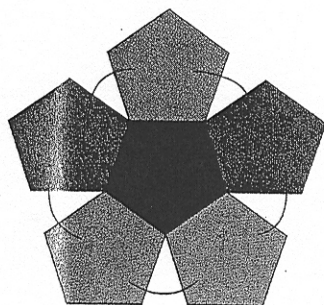
Cut 12 pentagons (two from each of six fabrics) using **Template 3** on page 85. Template includes  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. Speed up cutting time by using the pre-made template set that accompanies this book.



### Step 1



### Step 3



## Solving the Puzzle

The easiest way to construct this ball is to sew two halves, then stitch them together. Follow these steps:

1. Lay out the fabric pentagons as shown, with Fabric 1 at the center and the remaining fabrics surrounding it. Note that in Section A, Fabrics 2 to 6 are positioned counter-clockwise around Fabric 1, while in Section B placement is clockwise. Maintain this order of placement to ensure that same-color fabrics do not touch each other. Mark or place pins in Fabric 2, Section A, and in Fabric 5, Section B. Once both halves of ball are complete, this is where you will begin sewing them together.
2. Keeping a continuous thread for each section, pick up each pentagon in order of placement and sew it to the center piece. Press lightly.
3. Sew the sides of the pentagons together as shown, creating a half-ball shape.
4. Right sides together, orient the halves so that pre-marked Fabrics 2 and 5 are aligned. Pin the seam. Carefully sew the halves together, pivoting the fabric at each side of the pentagons. Sew until only one seam remains unstitched.
5. Carefully turn the ball right side out. Stuff and finish (see pages 12–15).

Patchwork Puzzle Balls  
by Jinny Beyer

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Book and templates available at <http://www.softexpressions.com> Or  
<http://www.jinnybeyer.com/index.cfm> (type "puzzle balls" in search area)

# Scrap Caddie

Fabric = 12 " quilted fabric, 5 inch square of rubber mesh used to cover shelves, rice and steel wool for pin cushion and assorted lace or buttons for embellishment

Cut: 1 - circle 6 1/2 " diameter (quilted fabric)  
1 - rectangle 18" x 12" (quilted fabric)  
1 - square 5"x 5" (quilted fabric)  
1 - square 6"x 6" (quilted or co-ordinated single layer fabric)

Sew rectangle matching 12" sides with right sides of fabric together. Quarter mark the fabric tube and bottom circle and stitch together. Serge seam allowance.

Fold top of double quilted fabric down to right side 2 inches, then 2 inches again and stitch forming a "collar". (Or add a band of co-ordinating fabric to finish top edge.)

To make the pin cushion, Make a puff pillow square by placing the 6" square on the 5" square with wrong sides together. Make a small tuck near the center of each side to fit the larger square to the smaller square. Leave an opening in the center of one side and stitch remaining edges. Fill with rice (for weight) except for center-top of square. Use a ball of steel wool in the center. (The steel wool will help keep your pins and needles sharp.) Close opening by stitching or use a hot glue gun.

Attach one side of the square to the bag .

Embellish with lace or buttons.

Hand stitch or hot glue a 5" square of rubberized shelf mesh to bottom of the pin cushion.

Hang the Scrap Caddie on the edge of the table near the sewing machine to capture threads and scraps.

Use a lunch bag liner if desired and toss it when it gets full.

Jacque Marchant/SUU

## Zippered Cosmetic Bag

1. Cut one piece of fabric 9" x 5 1/2" and another 9" x 6 1/2 "
2. Get a zipper, 5" to 7" long
3. With the sewing machine, sew two long ends of the two pieces of fabric together with a 5/8" seam, using a long basting stitch.
4. Center zipper along the seam and mark the position of the stops.
5. Sew from each end to within 1/4" of the marked point with a regular stitch, backstitching at each end.
6. Open zipper. Place it face down on the seam allowance of the 5 1/2" side of the fabric. The teeth or coil should be at the seam line and centered between the regular stitching. Pin in place.
7. Machine baste through the zipper tape and seam allowance **ONLY**, from bottom to the top of the zipper, using a zipper foot.
8. Close the zipper and turn it face up. Smooth the fabric away from the zipper forming a narrow fold between the zipper coil and the basted seam.
9. Machine stitch close to the fold, beginning at the bottom of the zipper. Sew through the folded seam allowance and zipper tape **ONLY**.
10. Open out the fabric and place the zipper face down on the full seam allowance. Smooth the fabric and zipper away from the seam.
11. Pin the zipper down, through all thicknesses of fabric. Mark the beginning and end of the basting threads.
12. Starting at the bottom of the zipper, sew across the zipper from the seam line. Leave the needle in the fabric and pivot. Sew up the side of the zipper. When you get to the top, leave the needle in the fabric and pivot again. Sew across the top of the zipper to the seam line.
13. Pull the threads to the back at both ends and tie in a knot.
14. Remove the basting threads holding the seam together.
15. Open zipper. Fold bag with right sides together and pin remaining three sides.
16. Sew with a 5/8" seam on all three sides, remembering to backstitch at both ends.
17. Finish seams with serger or zigzag on those three seams. Do not finish seams with zipper.
18. Turn bag right side out, through the zipper. Close zipper.